17. The traction drive according to Claim 1, wherein the maximum rope pressure of the load carrying ropes is approximately defined by the following equation:

$$P_{max} = (2F/Dw)$$

Where F is the tension in the tension member and D is the diameter of the traction sheave.

18. The traction drive according to Claim 1, further including a sheave liner disposed about the traction sheave, wherein the sheave liner defines the traction surface.

19. The traction drive according to Claim 1, wherein the traction surface is defined by a coating layer that is bonded to the traction sheave.

20. The traction drive according to Claim 1, wherein the traction sheave is formed from the material defining the traction surface.

21. The traction drive according to Claim 20, wherein the traction sheave is formed from polyurethane.--

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner enter this amendment and pass claims 1-21 to issue.

Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 15-0750, Order No. OT-4190A.

Respectfully submitted,

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